"THE COMIC I LOOK FORWARD TO READING THE MOST EVERY MONTH."
- COMICS ALLIANCE

LEGENDS OF THE BLUE BOMBER
3
OF 4

MEGA MAN™

ROBOT RUMBLE

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MEGA MAN 43

SPAZ

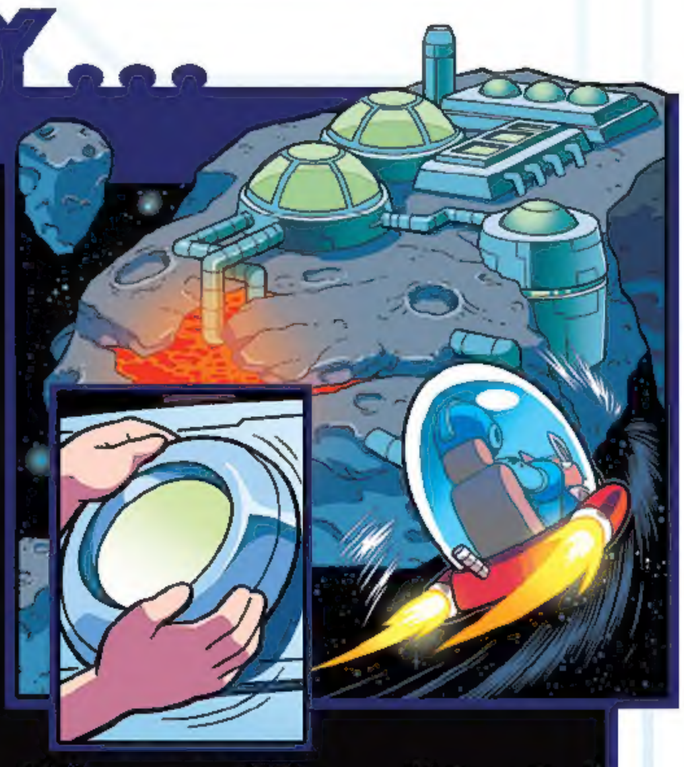
IN THE YEAR 20XX, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN HAS PLEDGED TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR.WILY AND PROTECT THE WORLD. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!

MEGA MAN™

PREVIOUSLY...

Energy Expedition!

Mega Man is on the hunt for the eight Energy Elements! These rare, expensive crystal batteries are the only things powerful enough to fuel Dr. Light's latest creation – the peace-keeping titan Gamma!



But the Energy Elements were stolen by a group of rogue Robot Masters, all of whom are secretly working for Dr. Wily. With Mega Man and his support team distracted by the hunt, Dr. Wily's master plan is coming together unnoticed.

As Mega Man hunts down the Robot Masters, our hero is both playing into Dr. Wily's grand scheme and placing himself in mortal danger...

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Legends of the BLUE BOMBER

Part Three: WITHOUT DIRECTION, WITH DISDAIN

ABOARD A MINING ASTEROID IN EARTH'S ORBIT...

AHHH!

MEGA MAN
AMBUSHED HERO

GEMINI MAN
SELF-DUPLICATING ROBOT

RUSH
FAITHFUL ROBO-DOG

YOU... *DODGED?!* HOW--?!

BLAM!

MEGA MAN! I'M SEEING A SEVERE DAMAGE REPORT! ARE YOU OKAY?

MMPH...I'M ALL RIGHT, DR. LIGHT. I LET MY GUARD DOWN, BUT I THINK I AVOIDED ANY MAJOR DAMAGE.

SSSSS

BACK ON EARTH, AT LIGHT LABS...

DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD. IF YOU NEED REPAIRS...

I'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME FOR REPAIRS LATER. WE NEED TO SECURE THE ENERGY ELEMENTS BEFORE ONE OF THE ROBOTS DOES SOMETHING CRAZY--LIKE USE THEIR POWER TO HURT PEOPLE.

DO WE HAVE COORDINATES FOR THE OTHERS?

ROLL
CONCERNED SISTER

DR. LIGHT
CONCERNED FATHER

AUTO
ROBO-MECHANIC

DR. WILY
CONCERNED--BUT NOT FOR MEGA MAN!

YES, ACTUALLY. ONE OF THE PROCESSING PLANTS THAT RECEIVES MATERIAL FROM THE MINING ASTEROIDS SHOWS SIGNS OF ROBOT MASTERS TAMPERING WITH THE WORK FORCE.

I NEED TO... ER...I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

MAGNET MAN! DO YOU READ ME? MEGA MAN IS ON HIS WAY TO YOU!

MAGNET MAN

DWN-018
MAGNETIC FORCE MANIPULATOR
TURNED ENEMY GENERAL

LET HIM COME, MASTER.

I'VE PREPARED FOR HIM.

IF MEGA MAN'S HEADING BACK TO EARTH, I'LL ASSUME THAT MEANS FOUR OF MY BROTHERS ARE... **GONE.**

I HAD SUGGESTED THE MISSING ASTEROIDS TACTIC TO DR. WILY. IF IT FAILED, THEN THEIR DESTRUCTION IS ON MY--

GRR...TURNED AROUND AGAIN. THE MASTER BUILDS ME AS THE MOST POWERFUL MAGNETIC DYNAMO IN HISTORY...

...AND DOESN'T THINK TO PROTECT MY OWN SYSTEMS FROM THE INTERFERENCE?

VMMM!

I WILL STEAL FOR HIM. I WILL BEND HUMANITY TO HIS WILL. I JUST WISH HE'D **THINK** ABOUT SOME OF HIS DESIGN CHOICES.

IF I STRIKE FAST ENOUGH, MEGA MAN WON'T HAVE TIME TO CAPITALIZE ON MY... FLAWS.

BOOM!

BOOM!

MEGA MAN WILL MEET HIS END HERE. MY BROTHERS WILL BE AVENGED. AND WILY WILL RULE ALL.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

I NEVER QUESTIONED DR. WILY'S TACTICS. IT **SEEMS** TO MAKE SENSE--WEAR MEGA MAN DOWN, THEN CRUSH HIM WITH A ROBOT MASTER AT THE END.

BUT IT DIDN'T WORK THE LAST TWENTY TIMES, AND HE'S TEARING THROUGH ALL MY DEFENSES--

WHAK!

--AND THEN THERE'S THE AFOREMENTIONED MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE ISSUE...

IT DOESN'T MATTER. MEGA MAN'S PRACTICALLY OUTSIDE MY DOOR.

AND WHEN HE STEPS INTO RANGE...

MAGNET MAN! **STAND DOWN!**

FT-TOOM

WUURRR

BLAM!

NOT BAD!

BUT CAN YOU KEEP UP SUCH MOVES...

...AMID THE MAGNETIC INTERFERENCE OF *EVERY CONDUCTOR IN THIS FACILITY?*

WHOA...

VWWWWWM

P-THOOM

P-THOOM

P-THOOM

WHAT THE--?!

BLAM!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, KID? CAN'T THINK THREE-DIMENSIONALLY?

BOOM!

BOOM!

BOOM!

YOU TALK BIG...BUT LET'S SEE IF *YOU* CAN HANDLE SOME MISDIRECTION...

RUSH JET! HERE, BOY!

WAIT... WHAT?

WHY IS HE ATTACKING UPSIDE-DOWN?

OR AM I ON THE CEILING?

WHICH WAY IS UP?!

BLAM!

MAGNET-ADHESION IS STILL ON... BUT AM I STICKING MYSELF TO THE FLOOR?!

P-THOOM

P-THOOM

P-THOOM

STOP IT! YOU'RE MESSING WITH MY HEAD!

ERGH!

THUD

SHING!

WEAPON EQUIP!
SHADOW BLADE

NOW I'VE GOT YOU!

SHING!

ARGH!

UGH... REMIND ME TO ASK DR. LIGHT WHY I WAS PROGRAMMED FOR NAUSEA...

HMPH...YOU REALLY THREW ME OFF MY GAME...QUITE THE TACTICAL PROCESSOR FOR A HOUSE-BOT.

BUT YOU WON'T MAKE IT FAR WHEN YOU LITERALLY CAN'T TAKE A STEP! THIS PLACE WILL BE YOUR MAGNETIZED TOMB!

UNTIL I SHUT YOU DOWN.

WHY DO YOU WILY-BOTS *ALWAYS* MAKE ME DO THIS?

WE HAVE NO CHOICE. IT'S OUR FUNCTION.

GO AHEAD, KID. FINISH IT.

THIS ISN'T THE END FOR YOU. I'LL SAVE YOUR I.C. CHIP SO DR. LIGHT CAN REBUILD YOU. I'LL DO IT FOR ALL YOUR BROTHERS, TOO.

PLEASE--TELL ME WHERE THE OTHER THREE ARE.

HELP ME END THIS.

...TELL THEM I WENT DOWN FIGHTING.

YOU DID--AND I WILL.

MEANWHILE--FEDERAL PRISON, MAXIMUM SECURITY WING...

...THEN MOVED HIM SO HE COULDN'T HURT ANYONE OR HIMSELF.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHERE DID HE GET THE SHIV?

WE *DON'T KNOW.* HE KEEPS MAKING THEM SOME-HOW.

CREEPY.

BUT HE SEEMS CONTENT TO JUST USE IT FOR GRAFFITI. IF HE STARTS MARKING HIMSELF, WE'LL MOVE HIM TO A PADDED CELL.

OKAY. MAYBE WE'LL GET DR. WILY FOR HIS ROOMMATE.

YOU DON'T BELIEVE HIS STORY ABOUT RA MOON?

DO *YOU?*

OH, WILY WILL HAVE HIS RECKONING. WE ALL WILL. THE TIME WILL COME, AND *WORLDS* WILL *COLLIDE* AGAIN...

AT A VINTAGE DOCKYARD...

MAGNET MAN MUST HAVE TRICKED ME, DR. LIGHT. WHY WOULD NEEDLE MAN BE OUT *HERE?*

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I'M SHOWING SIGNS OF STRANGE ROBOT ACTIVITY. BETTER TURN AROUND, JUST IN CASE.

NEEDLE MAN

DWN-017
MINING AND LAND MODIFYING ROBOT MASTER

(PRICKLY IN DEMEANOR **AND** ARMAMENT)

AWW, IS WIDDLE MEGA MAN CONFUSED? "OLD SHIP" DOESN'T FIT THEMATICALLY WITH "NEEDLES"?

WELL, TOO BAD!

p-thoomp!

THIS IS ASININE.

"I'M GOING TO SEND MEGA MAN TO KILL YOU!" THE DOC SAID.

"YOU CAN KILL HIM IF YOU WANT, BUT EITHER WAY, I WIN!" HE SAID.

EASILY THE **STUPIDEST** "EVIL GENIUS" IN THE **WORLD.**

WELL, IF I'M GOING TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS FARCE, I'M DOING IT ON **MY** TERMS.

THIS IS **MY** SHIP NOW. AND I TIED THE BEST RIGGING A SHIP EVER HAD!

NOT THAT LITTLE MISTER WUNDERKIND WILL NOTICE...

I'M **SUPPOSED** TO BE MINING, NOT PLAYING FOOT SOLDIER...

SHORTLY...

NEEDLE MAN? STEP AWAY FROM THE ENERGY ELEMENT AND--!

--ARE YOU CROCHETING?

KNITTING! *TWO* ACTIVE NEEDLES, YOU MORON! WERE YOU BUILT IN A BARN?

WORLD'S WORST BOSS

OH. DO...DO YOU WANT ME TO WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE FINISHED?

OH, NO-NO-NO. BY ALL MEANS, SHOOT ME IN THE FACE. *PLEASE!* I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IT.

...REALLY?

DID ONE OF MY BROTHERS SMASH YOUR SARCASM CHIP?

AHH! I DON'T KNOW! NOTHING ABOUT THIS PLACE MAKES SENSE!

EVERYONE GAVE ME SASS ABOUT THIS PLACE! "IT'S NOT IN THEME!"

WELL, WHAT WOULD BE IN THEME?! A YARN FACTORY? *OOOH--SCARY!*

WEAPON EQUIP! TOP SPIN!

HARD MAN ALREADY PICKED A CAVE--I CAN'T BE REDUNDANT! SO WHERE ELSE COULD--

SHING!

SHING!

SHING!

GAH!

NEVER.

DO THAT.

AGAIN!

I DON'T *WANT* TO! I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU OR YOUR BROTHERS!

WHY WON'T ANY OF YOU GIVE UP PEACEFULLY?!

WE *CAN'T!* WE'RE TOOLS! WE HAVE TO SERVE OUR FUNCTION!

I WASN'T BUILT TO FIGHT! I CHANGED! YOU CAN, TOO!

NO! YOU WERE BUILT TO "HELP PEOPLE"! YOU GET A NICE, FUZZY DEFINITION TO WORK WITHIN!

WE WEREN'T GIVEN THAT! "FIGHT MEGA MAN!" "DESTROY MEGA MAN!"

p-thoomp!

IT'S ALL WE'RE GOOD FOR!!!

FWOOM

WEAPON EQUIP!
GEMINI LASER

GOOD BOY!

CHOMP!

OH, NOT THIS AGAIN...

AUGH!!!

BZEET!

BZEET!

BZEET!

...I FREAKED OUT OVER THE NEEDLES...

...SO, OF COURSE, YOU USE THE PIERCING LASER.

I'M SORRY-- THIS ISN'T WHAT I WANTED.

IT'S *NEVER* ABOUT WHAT WE *WANT.* WE'RE JUST TOOLS, KID.

SO DO YOUR JOB. TAKE THE SHOT.

BZKET!

MEGA MAN?

≥SNIFF≤ I--I'M FINE, DR. LIGHT. I JUST *HATE* THIS.

NONE OF US WERE BUILT TO FIGHT, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THE ONLY THING WE DO...

IT'S ALMOST OVER, SON. STAY STRONG.

≥SIGH≤ ROLL. BE A DEAR AND GET ME SOME WATER, PLEASE.

SURE THING.

I HAVEN'T SEEN AUTO IN A WHILE...OR DR. WILY, FOR THAT MATTER.

"I'D BETTER GO LOOK FOR THEM WHEN I GET THE CHANCE..."

BLAST IT ALL-- COME IN, BREAK MAN! MEGA MAN'S BACK ON EARTH!

I *NEED* THOSE I.C. CHIPS AND WEAPON DATA, OR THIS WHOLE PLAN IS FOR NOTHING!

TALK TO YOURSELF MUCH, DOC?

GYEEP!

ROLL WAS RIGHT! YOU *WERE* SENDING OUT MESSAGES! WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW, YA JERK?!

E-EASY, NOW, AUTO! Y-YOU JUST MISHEARD THINGS! THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR AUDIO CARD!

THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' WRONG WITH--!

I SEE THE PROBLEM!

K--ZZT!

CRUNCH

WHUD!

SEE? FAULTY MEMORY BOARD.

NEXT TIME--THE *THRILLING CONCLUSION!* *MEGA MAN* VS. *HARD MAN* AND *SPARK MAN!* AND *DR. WILY* FINALLY MAKES HIS *BIG MOVE!* DON'T MISS THE *ACTION-PACKED FINALE!*

AND UNTIL THEN, ENJOY MORE MEGA MAN WITH THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

MEGA MAIL PRESENTS

MASTER WORKS

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Jackie W. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

David from Long Island

Jonathan A. from Texas

AlchemistCori sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

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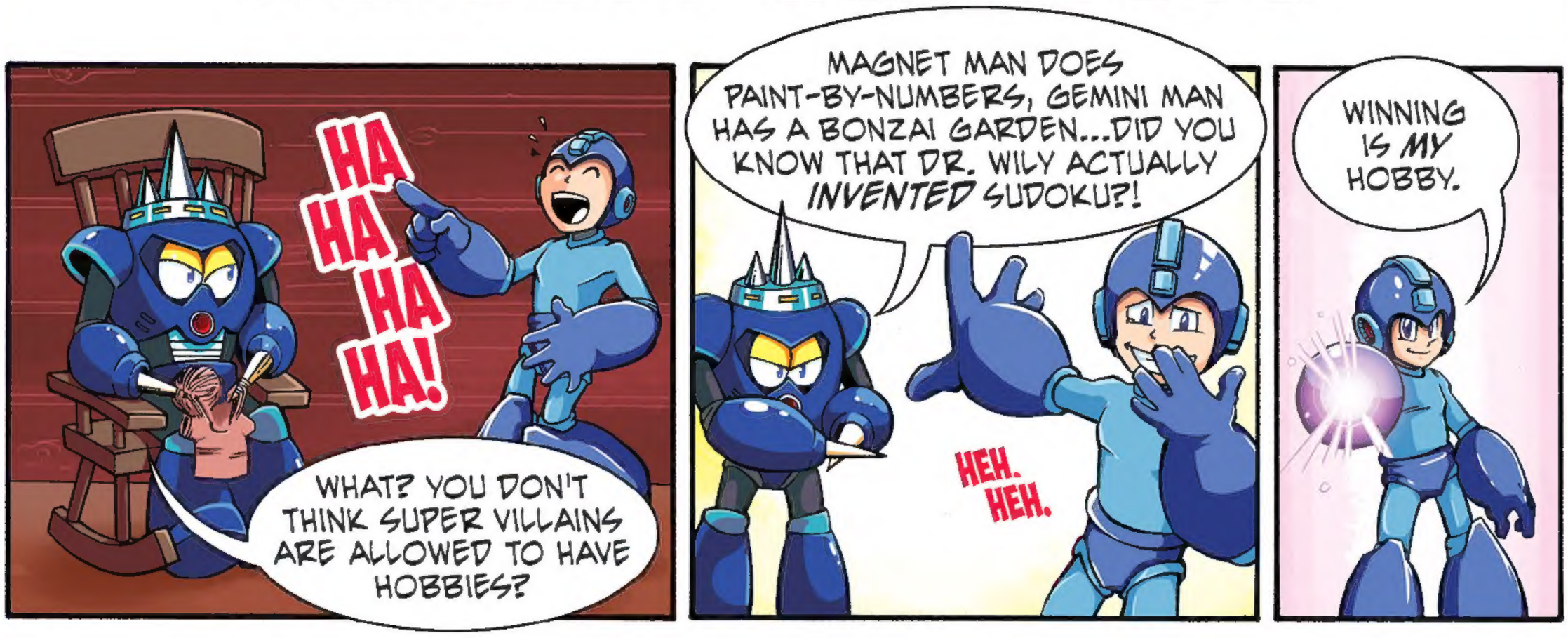
– SHORT CIRCUITS –


HA HA HA!
WHAT? YOU DON'T THINK SUPER VILLAINS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE HOBBIES?
MAGNET MAN DOES PAINT-BY-NUMBERS, GEMINI MAN HAS A BONZAI GARDEN...DID YOU KNOW THAT DR. WILY ACTUALLY *INVENTED* SUDOKU?!
HEH. HEH.
WINNING IS *MY* HOBBY.

SCRIPT: ERIC ESQUIVEL PENCILS: CARL SCIACCHITANO INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: VINCENT LOVALLO

MEGA MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL C/O
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NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL:
MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM
OR TWEET AT US USING #MEGAMAIL!

Dear Mega-Mail,
I liked Mega Man #41, not only for the story itself, but I also liked all the groundwork that went into it. Unlike the other adaptations which went by quickly, the Mega Man 3 adaptation had plenty of time to develop. We got to see the origin of the stage 3 Robot Masters and got to know them before Mega Man jumped into battle with them. All the elements from the game, to Blues' backstory to Gamma, and even the DOC robots were explored nicely. I enjoyed this buildup greatly, and now it's really paying off.

It's certainly been a long journey leading up to this story! Happy to hear you're digging it!

It's nice to see Dr. Wily slowly, methodically plotting and scheming to forward his goals. It's a lot more involved than "steal robots and conquer the world!" It's nice to see that he is a credible threat here, as he's staying one step ahead of the situation.

Indeed! Not to mention he's doing so right under Dr. Light's nose AND roof!

Kudos to Roll for catching on to him and stalling his plans, which also makes her a more solid character.

Roll is more than a house keeper, she can be just as heroic as her twin brother as displayed in Mega Man vol. 5 (which is available now btw)!

It was also nice to see the Robot Masters' perspective a little bit more. It adds a lot to the charm of the series. The audience can share Rock's grief more when he has to confront them.

This squad of Robot Masters all have very unique personalities and goals. We want to make sure we highlight their importance just as much as Rock.

But of course, since we all played Mega Man 3 before, we know this is only the beginning! I can't wait to see how Blues fits in to the whole plot!

-Jonathan G. sent to MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the praise, Jonathan! Mega Man 3 is one of my personal favorites from the classic era, right up there with Mega Man 2. It's only going to get crazier from here on in, so get psyched!

We'll see y'all next time for the big finale of "Legends of the Blue Bomber"!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

MEGA MAN™ 43

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LEGENDS OF THE BLUE BOMBER

THE CONCLUSION